

JUPITER FLIGHTS BALLOON FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY CONNER PRAIRIE MUSEUM Inc.

Dear Pilot,

February 1,2026

Conner Prairie Museum Inc., and the local Indianapolis area would like to invite you to spend a weekend in September flying fun competition and glowing for the crowds on the museum grounds. The event will be September 11th- 13th in front of large crowds with music and fun activities for all family members.

Jupiter Flights Balloon Festival will utilize the BFA rules, regulations, policies, procedures. Any eligible scores will be submitted for inclusion into the 2026 BFA national rankings.

Indiana Montgolfier pilots will be eligible for point rankings for the states prestigious Montgolfier Cup.

Conner Prairie Museum will be hosting a total of 46 balloons this year, by invitation only. Pilots will be given a complementary pilot hotel room (rooms are provided for crew living further than 40 miles away from the museum), discounted crew rooms, and show money for all non-commercial entries of \$800 dollars. Fuel will be provided after each event. Show full, leave full.

Balloon activities include evening fly-out task with half the field one night, the other half will glow. Reversal of rolls, the following night. Morning flights will be all field competitive fly-on task, with other targets called.

There will be an award's after Sunday's flight, awarding cash prizes of 1st place \$1000 dollars, 2nd place \$750 dollars, 3rd place \$500 dollars, 4th place \$250 and 5th place \$100. Conner Prairie will have trophies for top 3 finishers.

For corporate balloon entries, at an entry cost of \$1250, we will provide . Hotel coverage from Thursday afternoon the 10th, through Sunday AM checkout of the 13th. This will give you the opportunity to take part in our media morning the 10th, with TV coverage by all 4 networks. You are also able to set up a display area throughout the event , to help promote your company.

The application process has moved to an online format the will streamline all required documents from the FAA and museum. Once the entry window is closed, our committee will meet and go through the roster filling the field. The field will consist of 10 fiesta pilots, and 33 competition pilots, along with 3 shapes. Fiesta pilots will be based on returning pilots, while competition will be filled from previous 2025 rankings, along with a list of backup pilots. Entry closes March 1st, 2026. The roster will be determined and posted March 15st, 2026.

An acceptance email will be sent out, along with an invoice email allowing you to pay online fees at that time, of \$100.

Please be cautious of your entry position since this event has become very popular for corporate and competition pilots. A backup list will also be published, don't be discouraged if you don't make the first cut. Last year we went to 3 backup pilots.

Any questions let me know. We look forward to hosting the state's largest balloon event.

Jack Semler & Lynn Semler
Pilot Coordinator

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